Application No. 09/712,175   Reply to Office Action

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A peripheral device of a programmable controller, comprising:
       display means on which a plurality of windows are displayed; ~~and~~
       managing means for outputting, to programmable controllers corresponding to the windows, processing requests that request execution of monitoring processes in the programmable controllers, and for outputting, when receiving a processing result of the monitoring processes in the program controllers that are based on the processing requests, the processing result received to the windows, wherein the processing requests are output at output periods that are different for the respective programmable controllers corresponding to the respective windows;
       <u>input means for selecting an arbitrary window from the plurality of windows; and</u>
       <u>a timer for measuring, for each of the plurality of windows, a time during which the arbitrary window is selected by the input means, wherein the managing means outputs the processing requests to the respective programmable controllers corresponding to the respective windows at output periods that are based on the times that have been measured by the timer.</u>

2-6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) The peripheral device of a programmable controller according to claim ~~6~~ <u>1</u>, wherein the output period of the processing request that is output to the programmable controller corresponding to the arbitrary window is obtained by selecting a maximum value from the times during which the respective windows have been selected by the input means and that have been measured by the timer, dividing the selected maximum value by the time of the arbitrary window, and multiplying a resulting quotient by a reference period that is input through the input means.

8-9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously Presented) The peripheral device of a programmable controller according to claim 1, wherein the processing results of the monitoring processes in the programmable controllers that are output to the windows are updated at updating periods that are different for the respective programmable controllers based on the output periods of the processing requests that were output from the managing means to the programmable

controllers.

11. (Currently Amended) A method of monitoring a peripheral device of a programmable controller, comprising:

outputting processing requests that request execution of monitoring processes in programmable controllers corresponding to respective windows being displayed on display means to the programmable controllers at output periods that are different for the respective programmable controllers;

receiving, based on the output periods, processing results of the monitoring processes in the programmable controllers that are based on the processing requests; ~~and~~

outputting the processing results received to the windows;

selecting, with input means, an arbitrary window from the plurality of windows: and

measuring and accumulating, with a timer, for each of the plurality of windows, a time during which the arbitrary window is selected with the input means, wherein the processing requests are output at output periods that are based on the times that have been measured with the timer.

12-17. (Canceled)

18. (New) The peripheral device of a programmable controller according to claim 7, wherein the processing results of the monitoring processes in the programmable controllers that are output to the windows are updated at updating periods that are different for the respective programmable controllers based on the output periods of the processing requests that were output from the managing means to the programmable controllers.

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.